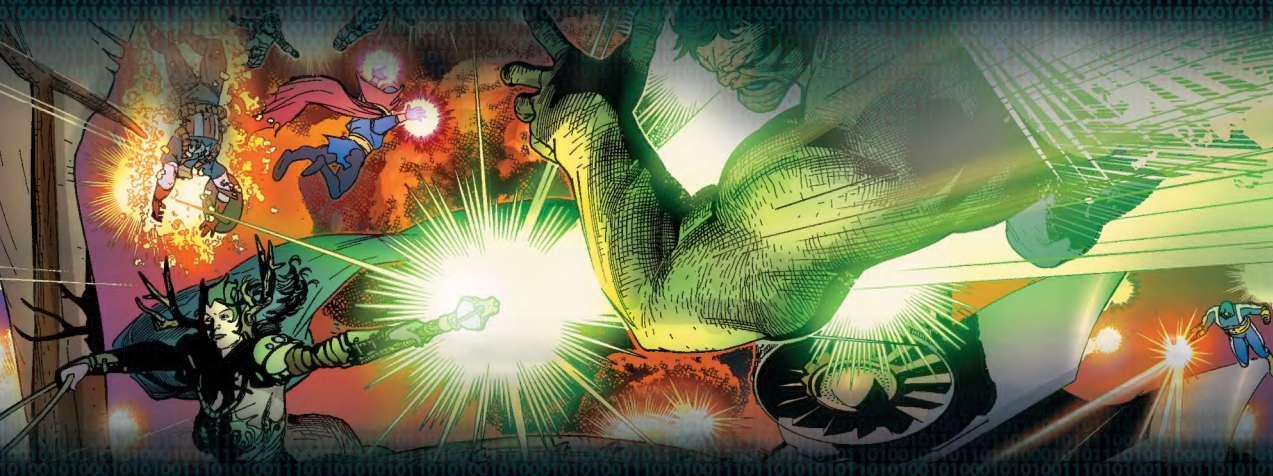
AGE OF ULTRON™
BOOK NINE
MARVEL
BENDIS
PACHECO
PETERSON
BONET
AR

# AGE OF ULTRON
## BOOK NINE



## PREVIOUSLY IN AGE OF ULTRON...

YEARS AGO, FOUNDING AVENGER HENRY PYM INVENTED THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE KNOWN AS ULTRON.

ONCE ULTRON BECAME SENTIENT, IT DEDICATED ITS EXISTENCE TO DESTROYING HUMANITY AND EVENTUALLY SUCCEEDED. IN AN ATTEMPT TO PREVENT THE RISE OF ULTRON, WOLVERINE AND SUSAN RICHARDS JOURNEYED INTO THE PAST TO WRITE ULTRON OUT OF EXISTENCE—BY KILLING HANK PYM.

WOLVERINE AND SUE RETURNED TO A PRESENT VASTLY ALTERED BY THE PREMATURE DEATH OF HANK PYM, WHERE MAGIC IS MIGHTIER THAN TECHNOLOGY. WOLVERINE AND SUE WERE CAPTURED BY THE DEFENDERS AND IMPRISONED ON ONE OF TONY STARK'S STARKGUARD CARRIERS. SUE'S ESCAPE ATTEMPT WAS FOILED BY STARK, JUST AS MORGANA LE FEY LAUNCHED A MASSIVE INVASION. THE DEFENDERS AND IRON MAN ENGAGED LE FEY'S ARMY OF DRAGONS AND DOOMBOTS, BUT TO NO AVAIL. TWO MASSIVE CARRIERS COLLIDED, CAUSING A DEVASTATING EXPLOSION DIRECTLY OVER NEW YORK.


BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS WRITER PRESENT: BRANDON PETERSON ARTIST; PAUL MOUNTS COLOR ARTIST
PAST: CARLOS PACHECO PENCILER; ROGER BONET INKER; JOSE VILLARRUBIA COLOR ARTIST
VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERER PACHECO & VILLARRUBIA COVER ART
ROCK-HE KIM; JORGE MOLINA VARIANT COVERS

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NEW YORK CITY.
TODAY.

DAILY BUGLE

NAAGH!

AGH!

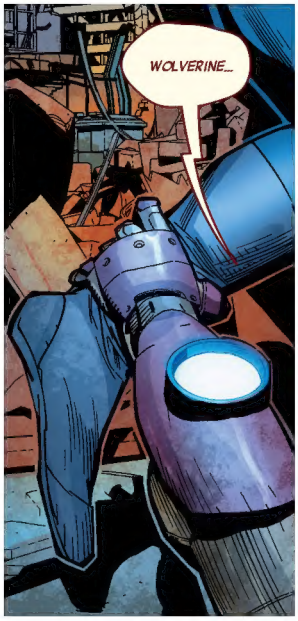
FIVE DAYS LATER.
NYYAARR!

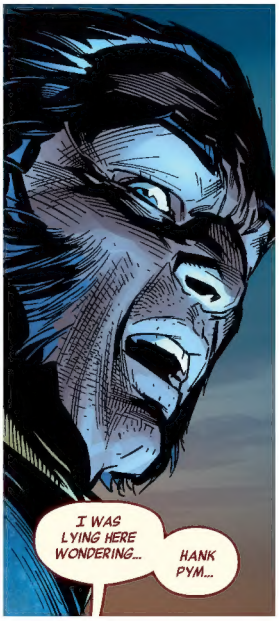
GUH!
GAUH!
AH!

AH!

HURRAA!

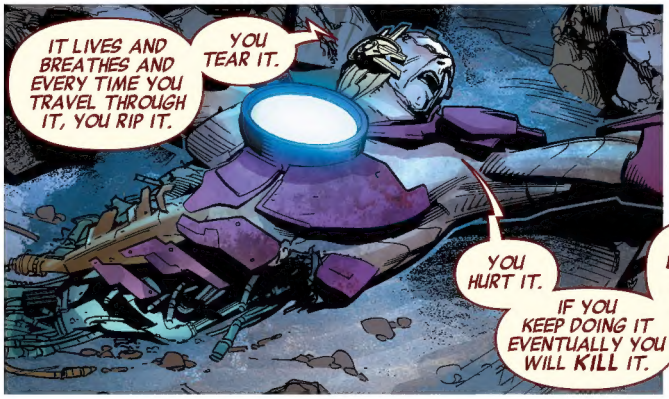
GUAAHH!
CHACK
HUAAR!
CHACK
CHACK
CHACK


WOLVERINE...


I WAS LYING HERE WONDERING...
HANK PYM...

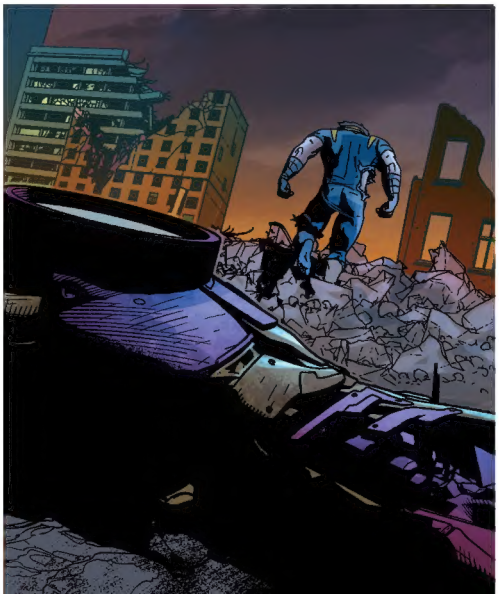
COULD ONE MAN MAKE SO MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE?
I GUESS SO.
BUT...
YOU--YOU CAN'T GO BACK.
I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO TRY TO GO BACK IN TIME AND FIX YOUR MISTAKE.
YOU CAN'T.

LISTEN TO ME, THE REASON...THE REASON WE DON'T GO BACK AND FORTH THROUGH TIME AND FIX THINGS...
THE REASON WE DON'T JUST DO WHATEVER WE WANT WHENEVER THINGS DON'T GO OUR WAY IS BECAUSE WE CAN'T.
TIME IS AN ORGANISM.
IT'S PART OF US.


IT LIVES AND BREATHES AND EVERY TIME YOU TRAVEL THROUGH IT, YOU RIP IT.
YOU TEAR IT.
YOU HURT IT.
IF YOU KEEP DOING IT EVENTUALLY YOU WILL KILL IT.

YOU'LL BREAK IT BEYOND REPAIR.
DO YOU HEAR ME?
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TIME IS DEAD?
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU KILL IT?

IT'S NOT JUST US--
WE'RE NOT ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE.



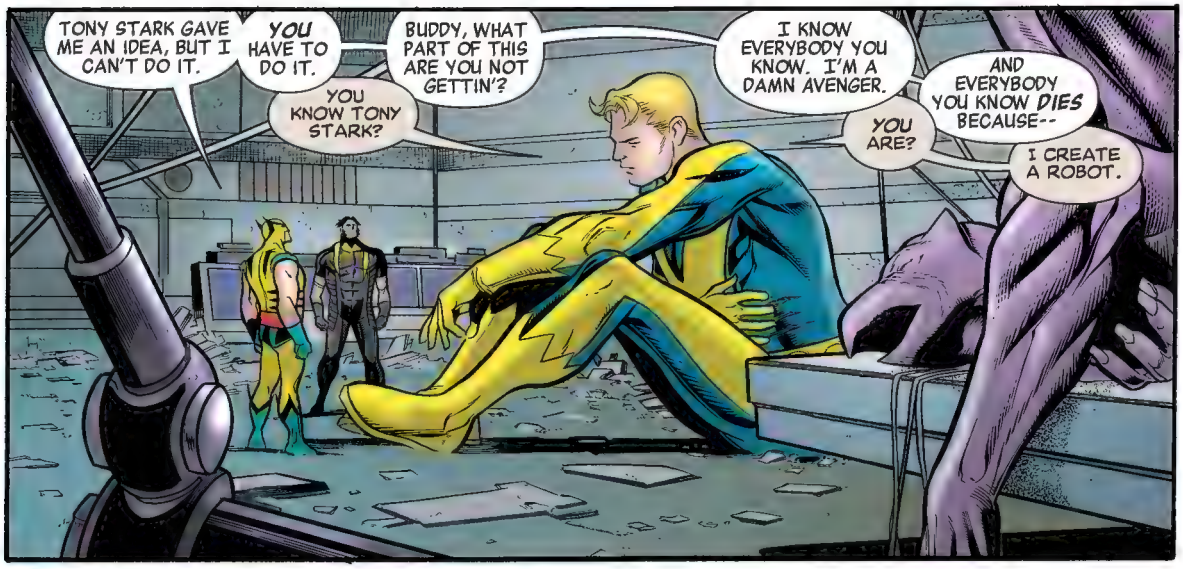
YOU JUST, RIGHT NOW, THOUGHT OF THE WAY TO @#$# THE WORLD.
AND I WAS HERE TO SEE IT.
AIN'T I LUCKY.
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE.
YEARS AGO.
BUDDY, I'M TELLING YOU, YOU PICKED THE WRONG PLACE TO BREAK INTO--
LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, BUB...
I COME FROM A PLACE NOT LONG FROM NOW WHERE EVERYTHING YOU LOVE, EVERYTHING, ALL OF IT, WILL BE GONE...
CUZ'A YOU.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, FRIEND?
YOU LISTENIN' TO ME?
I COME FROM THE FUTURE AND IN THE FUTURE THERE IS NO FUTURE.
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
SNIKT
THAT'S THE PROBLEM, PYM...
WHERE I COME FROM, EVERYONE KNOWS WHO YOU ARE.
SNIKT
AND I KNOW ENOUGH TO KNOW AIN'T NOTHIN' GONNA STOP YOU FROM BEING YOU.
AND ANY SMALL CHANCE YOU WOULD IS A CHANCE I AIN'T WILLIN' TO TAKE.

WHAT AM I DOING?!
I CAN'T JUST LET THIS HAPPEN.
I CAN'T PUT MY NEEDS IN FRONT OF--BUT MY NEEDS ARE THE NEEDS OF--
HEY! DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE DONE ALREADY? WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT--?

WHAT ARE YOU MADE OUT OF?!
GGAARRGHH!
SLLICCCEEE
WHORRRARE YOU?
I DONE TOLD YA.
I'M THE LAST RESORT.
YOU DONE GOOD IN THE WORLD TOO, PYM.
I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT.
THAT'S WHY THIS AIN'T EASY.
STOP!
IT DOESN'T WORK.
DON'T BOTHER.
THE HELL?

THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!
SMASH!
I NEED YOU TO HEAR ME, ME.
STAND DOWN!
YOU KILL PYM HERE, YOU GO HOME, AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS AS BIG A MESS AS THE ONE YOU'RE TRYING TO STOP.
WHAT IS THIS?
I'D APOLOGIZE, BUT I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TA START.
WHAT DAMN TRICK?
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE AND YOU KNOW IT. IT'S--IT IS WHAT IT IS.
YA THINK YOU'RE DOIN' THE RIGHT THING HERE, BUT I'VE COME BACK TO TELL YA, YOU'RE WAY OFF. WE ARE WAY, WAY OFF.
WHO SENT YOU? CAPTAIN AMERICA?
YOU AN ULTRON THING?
WHAT THE HELL?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE WEARING?
IT'S ALL FURY HAD FOR US IN HIS SECRET BUNKER.
AND NOW, WE NEED TO THINK OF SOMETHING BETTER THAN WHAT YOU WERE ABOUT TO DO.
SORRY, BUB, I DON'T BUY THIS AT ALL...
YOU'RE GONNA MAKE ME SAY IT, AIN'T YA?
AR

1928.
CHARLENE BAUMGARTNER.
WHO THE HELL TOLD YOU ABOUT--?
YEAH, I'M SAYIN'...THIS IS REAL.
I BEEN THERE AND BACK.
TIME FOR PLAN B OR THAT'S THE SHOW.
WELL #$@@.
WHAT IS THIS?
SO WHAT DO WE DO?
FIND ANOTHER TIME TO DO IT?
KILL HIM AS A BABY?
THIS--THIS IS JUST FASCINATING.
NO.
HE HAS TO FIX THIS.
BUT WE DECIDED HE WOULD NEVER DO THAT. WE DECIDED.
I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T GET YOUR NAME? AND JUST HOW ARE YOU THEORETICALLY TRAVELING THROUGH TIME?


TONY STARK GAVE ME AN IDEA, BUT I CAN'T DO IT.
YOU HAVE TO DO IT.
YOU KNOW TONY STARK?
BUDDY, WHAT PART OF THIS ARE YOU NOT GETTIN'?
I KNOW EVERYBODY YOU KNOW. I'M A DAMN AVENGER.
YOU ARE?
AND EVERYBODY YOU KNOW DIES BECAUSE--
I CREATE A ROBOT.

I DON'T MAKE ROBOTS.
I-I'M TINKERING WITH SOME A.I.
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.
THAT THING.
ULTRON.

I PROMISE YOU, I WON'T CREATE THE ROBOT.
I HEAR YOU.
IT'S DONE.
IT WON'T HAPPEN.

NO.
IT HAS TO HAPPEN.
EVERYTHING THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED, HAS TO HAPPEN.
EVERYTHING?
EVERYTHING BUT THE PART WHERE ULTRON MOPS THE WORLD WITH US.

EVERYTHING BUT--
HOW COULD THAT POSSIBLY WORK?

STARK SAID SOMETHIN' ABOUT CREATIN' SOME SORT OF THING--A VIRUS OR SOMETHIN'. A CODE...

SOMETHIN' YOU PUT IN THE ROBOT *NOW* AND YOU LET THE WORLD UNRAVEL AS IT'S SUPPOSED TO.

EXCEPT YOU MAKE IT SO WHEN THE THING IS ABOUT TO GO FULL-BLOWN--IT JUST CAN'T.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ULTRON.

WHAT IF-- HMM...

WHAT IF, KNOWING WHAT I KNOW NOW, I JUST CREATE A *BETTER* VERSION OF IT?

SEE, HE CAN'T *NOT* CREATE THE DAMN THING.

WE WERE RIGHT TO COME HERE.

NOT EVEN CLOSE.

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY, I CAN TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

HE DOESN'T GET IT.

I GET IT.

I'M SAYING I'M GRATEFUL THAT YOU CAME HERE.

I'M SAYING WE CAN--

SHUT UP.

NOW I WANT TO KILL HIM JUST OUT OF PRINCIPLE.

I CREATE AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE THAT ATTACKS THE WORLD, THE AVENGERS...IS THIS NUMEROUS TIMES? IS THIS AN ONGOING CONCERN?

YUP.

NUMEROUS TIMES.

YUP.

WELL, NOW I'LL KNOW.

I'LL KNOW THAT AT ANY TIME DURING THE NUMEROUS TIMES HE ATTACKS US, I CAN PUSH A BUTTON AND MAKE THIS A.I. STOP AT ANY TIME.

HOW COULD I *POSSIBLY* ALLOW ALL THESE CLOSE CALLS?

WERE THEY CLOSE CALLS?

SURE.

HOW DO I *POSSIBLY* LET THAT HAPPEN?

YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE YOURSELF FORGET.

SUSAN STORM?
DOCTOR...
ARE YOU WITH *THEM* TOO?
KIND OF.
YOU LOOK--YOU LOOK--
WELL, I'VE BEEN THROUGH HELL.
NO. YOU LOOK OLDER.
HOLD THAT THOUGHT FOR JUST A SECOND...

YOU HIT ME!
I HAD TO STOP YOU FROM NOT STOPPING ME FROM KILLING HIM.
I WAS *GOING* TO STOP YOU.
NO. YOU WEREN'T.

OKAY, WE'RE GETTING TO A PLACE HERE WHERE WE NEED TO CALL MY HUSBAND.
EVEN THE REED FROM THIS TIME CAN HELP US NAVIGATE THE REST OF THIS.

I THINK IT'S BEST WE KEEP THIS SIMPLE AND AMONGST OURSELVES.
HE CAN HELP.
NOT IN THE LONG RUN.

I WOULD NEVER DO THIS.
I WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD HURT ANYONE, LET ALONE EVERYONE.
I KNOW.
BUT IF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS TRUE...

HENRY, MY KIDS, THE WHOLE CITY, THE WHOLE WORLD...
EVERYTHING DIES.
EVERYTHING.
WE RISKED EVERYTHING TO COME HERE.

SO ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CREATE AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE THAT DOESN'T EXIST YET...
PUT A TIME RELEASE PROGRAM INSIDE OF IT THAT DOESN'T EXIST YET...
MAKE MYSELF FORGET ABOUT IT AND GO ABOUT MY LIFE...

HOW DO I DO THIS EXACTLY?

THE SAVAGE LAND, ANTARCTICA.

SO, WHAT?

YOU'RE BOTH COMING BACK WITH ME?

AREN'T YOU NOW A WALKING, TALKING PARADOX?

I MEAN, MORE THAN USUAL.

GIVE US A MINUTE.

SO... WHICH ONE OF US?

ME.

YOU SURE?

YOU DIDN'T SEE WHAT I SAW.

THAT BAD?

WE DON'T WANNA LIVE WITH IT.

WHAT IF PYM SCREWS US?

I DON'T KNOW.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY MORE CHANCES WE GET IN THIS WORLD.

WELL...

THIS IS GOING TO HAUNT ME.

YUP.

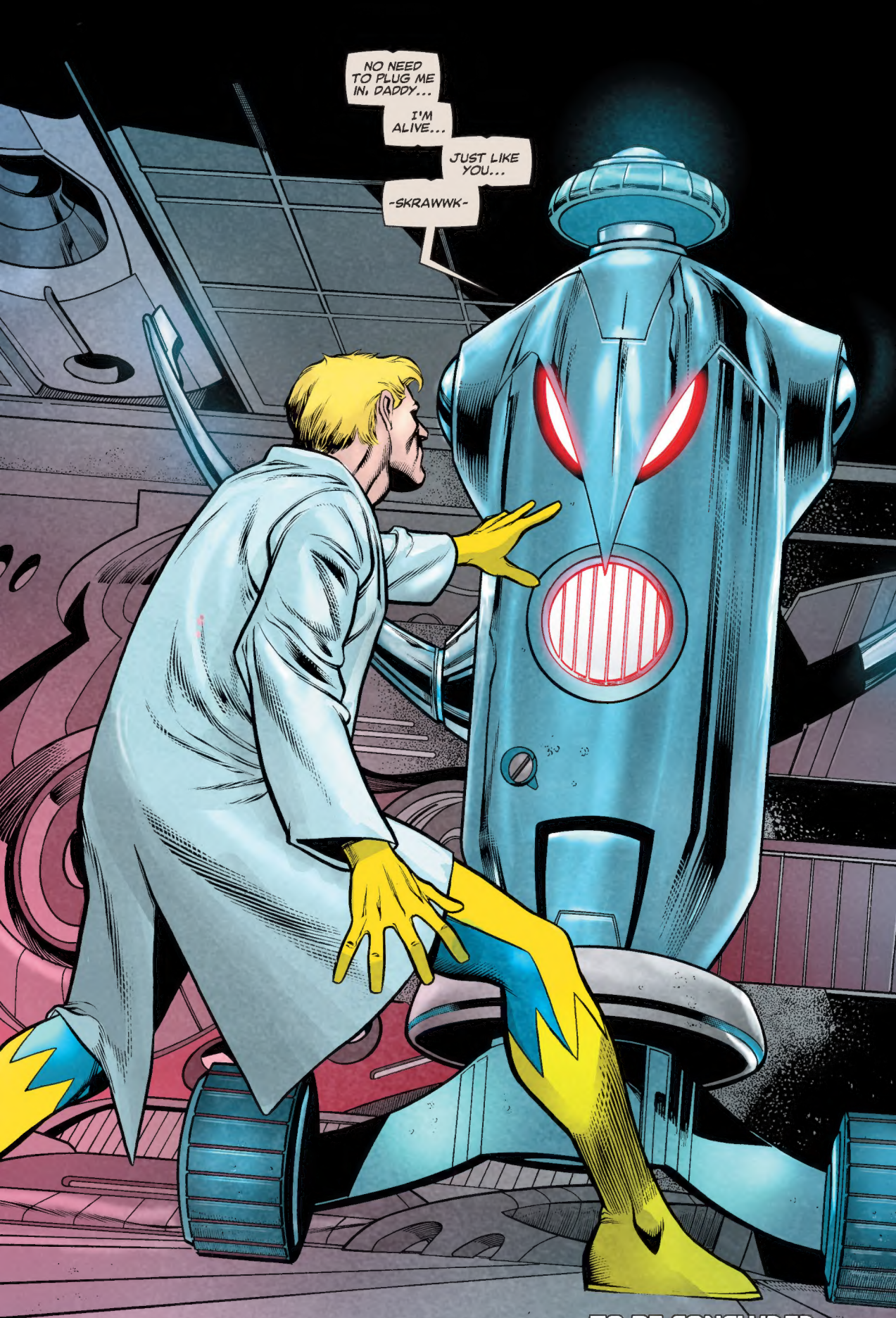
HELLO?

YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO...

SNIKT

HELLO?

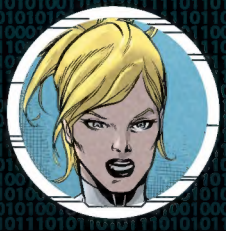
OH MY GOD...
WHAT DID--WHAT DID YOU DO?
LET'S JUST GO BACK WHERE WE BELONG.
-SKRAWWK-
WHAT IF IT DOESN'T WORK?
WHAT IF IT'S JUST BEYOND PYM'S ABILITIES?
WANT DA-DA--
-SKRAWWK-


NO NEED TO PLUG ME IN, DADDY...
I'M ALIVE...
JUST LIKE YOU...
-SKRAWWK-
TO BE CONCLUDED...

# AGE OF ULTRON
## BOOK NINE

## AGE OF ULTRON:

WOLVERINE



SUE STORM

## AGE OF MORGANA LE FEY:

TONY STARK

## THE PAST:

HANK PYM

ULTRON

# NEXT:

## THE EPIC CONCLUSION!